

San José State University
Social Sciences/Anthropology
Anth153, Human Variation, Biology, Section 1,
Spring 2012

Instructor:	Dr. Elizabeth Weiss
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Office Hours:	Tu/Th 1030 – 1145; 1330 – 1445
Class Days/Time:	TuTh 0900 – 1015
Classroom:	WSQ 4

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/elizabeth.weiss/>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor).

Course Description

Human variation and behavior is the study of the nature and extent of heritable biological and behavioral differences and similarities among human populations in an evolutionary perspective. Data drawn from non-human primates, medical fields, the fossil record and genetics will be reviewed. The role of genetics and environment in the formation of these differences is considered.

Course Goals and Program Learning Outcomes

The department of anthropology has key learning objectives and skills that we wish students to obtain. By the completion of this course, students should have an increased:

- 1) Understanding culture as the distinguishing phenomenon of human life, and the relationships of human biology and cultural processes in human behavior and evolution.
- 2) Awareness of human diversity and the ways in which humans categorize diversity.

- 3) Knowledge of the significant findings of archaeology, cultural anthropology, and physical anthropology, and familiarity of the important issues in each sub-discipline.
- 4) Knowledge of the history of anthropological thought and its place in modern intellectual history.
- 5) Comprehension of migration, colonialism, and economic integration as significant phenomena shaping global society.
- 6) Ability to access various forms of anthropological data and literature.
- 7) Awareness of the importance and value of anthropological knowledge in contemporary society, and the ability to apply it to social issues.
- 8) Knowledge of the research methods of the sub-disciplines of anthropology, and ability to apply appropriate research methods in at least one sub-discipline.
- 9) Ability to present and communicate anthropological knowledge and the results of anthropological research to different audiences.
- 10) Knowledge of political and ethical implications of social research.

Required Texts/Readings

Muehlenbein, M. P. (2010). *Human evolutionary biology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 978-0-521-70510-3

Classroom Protocol

Please respect your neighbors and refrain from newspaper reading; using electronics; utilizing computers for anything other than taking notes. Any behavior deemed disruptive to the instructor or other students may result in being asked to leave the classroom or being referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc.

Assignments and Grading Policy

- There will be 3 quizzes (20% each) and a comprehensive final exam (40%).
- Read the assignments before coming to class and ask questions when is unclear.
- I will not answer questions regarding study guides, exams or grades in emails.

Grading is as followed:

A	B	C	D
97% - 100% = A+	87-89% = B+	77-79% = C+	67-69% = D+
91-96% = A	81-86% = B	71-76% = C	61-66% = D
90% = A-	80% = B-	70% = C-	60% = D-

Attendance and Participation

There will be various in-class participation assignments intended to help students on quizzes and the final. These are an integral part of class; it is important to arrive on time and attend the entire class period.

Make-up Work

If you know in advance that you should be unable to attend a quiz or the final it is your responsibility to contact me immediately by either e-mailing or telephoning me, leaving a message for me at the main department office, or coming by during my office hours.

Only students with a valid documented excuse will be able to take a make-up quiz or final.

University Policies

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University's Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html) is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

ANTH153 / Human Variation, Behavior, Spring 2012, Course Schedule

List the agenda for the semester including when and where the final exam will be held. Indicate the schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available.

Table 1 Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/26	Introduction
2	1/31 2/2	Evolution review: chapters 1 & 2 Genetics review: chapter 4
3	2/7 2/9	Metric methods in human variation studies: chapter 6 Energy and hormone measurements: chapters 7 & 8
4	2/14 2/16	Body types and climate: size and nutrition: chapters 10 High altitude and skin color: chapters 11 & 12
5	2/21 2/23	DNA Markers: chapters 13 & 14 Quiz 1 Review
6	2/28 3/1	Quiz 1 Human behavior and hormones: chapter 16
7	3/6 3/8	Mate choice: selection: chapter 17 Mate choice: offspring viability: chapter 18
8	3/13 3/15	Female reproduction: chapters 19 & 20 Male reproduction: chapter 21
9	3/20 3/22	Quiz 2 Review Quiz 2
10	3/27 - 3/29	SPRING BREAK
11	4/3 4/5	Evolutionary factors on human growth: chapter 22 Environment and human growth: chapters 23 & 24.
12	4/10 4/12	Brain growth: chapters 25 & 26 No Class
13	4/17 4/19	Evolutionary perspectives on health: chapter 27 Chronic diseases: chapters 28 & 29
14	4/24 4/26	Growing fat and old: chapters 30 & 31 Quiz 3 Review
15	5/1 5/3	Quiz 3 Evolution of mental disorders: chapter 32
16	5/8 5/10	Modern societies and health: pollutant: chapter 33 Modern societies and health: acculturation: chapter 34
17	5/15	Final Review
Final Exam	Tuesday, 5/22	0715 – 0930